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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 6, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 1 totaled an estimated 17.5 billion ton-miles, 12.0 percent above the corresponding period a year ago.

Cumulative volume for the first 39 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 614.8 billion ton-miles, 1.4 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 1 totaled 408,557 cars, 9.3 percent over 1982, and 3.8 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 4.3 percent in the East, 5.0 percent in the South and 15.5 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 16 of the 21 commodity groups were up, including motor vehicles and equipment, up 56.2 percent, metallic ores, up 53.5 percent, and grain, up 20.5 percent. Sixteen of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended September 24 totaled 50,931 cars, up 53.6 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 88,936 trailers and/or containers, 50.8 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 38 weeks of the year was 1,676,339 cars, 21.5 percent higher than last year, and 2,893,420 trailers and/or containers, up 18.5 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/1/83:

	Loadings in Week ended October 1, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	28,688	I	4,873	20.5	D	1,120	3.8
Other farm products	3,941	I	1,093	38.4	D	10	0.3
Metallic ores	17,638	I	6,146	53.5	I	4,262	31.9
Coal	110,327	D	9,241	7.7	I	936	0.9
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,868	I	1,697	16.7	I	230	2.0
Nonmetallic minerals	13,233	I	3,257	32.6	I	120	0.9
Grain mill products	12,904	I	596	4.8	I	246	1.9
Food and kindred products	12,968	D	1,222	8.6	I	434	3.5
Primary forest products	15,386	I	139	0.9	I	893	6.2
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,830	I	861	12.4	I	456	6.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	16,142	D	21	0.1	I	624	4.0
Chemicals and allied products	27,220	I	4,621	20.4	I	2,512	10.2
Petroleum products	4,737	D	160	3.3	D	165	3.4
Stone, clay and glass products	12,240	I	749	6.5	I	416	3.5
Coke	5,234	I	796	17.9	D	133	2.5
Metals and products	9,679	I	1,633	20.3	I	1,084	12.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,539	I	7,029	56.2	I	565	3.0
Waste and scrap materials	9,395	I	1,352	16.8	I	376	4.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	11,067	I	2,750	33.1	I	756	7.3
All other carloads	58,184	I	8,684	17.5	I	2,318	4.1
LCL traffic	337	D	824	71.0	D	5	1.5
Total Cars Loaded	408,557	I	34,808	9.3	I	14,795	3.8
Corresponding week of 1982	373,749						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (39 weeks)	13,989,397	14,226,032	D 1.7

Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
38 weeks ended September 24	597.3	590.7	I 1.1
Week ended October 1	17.5	15.6	I 12.0
39 weeks cumulative	614.8	606.3	I 1.4

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